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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/004,131	10/30/2001	Naoto Matsunami	16869P-036100US	8042
20350	7590	10/17/2006	EXAMINER	
TOWNSEND AND TOWNSEND AND CREW, LLP TWO EMBARCADERO CENTER EIGHTH FLOOR SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111-3834			SORRELL, ERON J	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2182	

DATE MAILED: 10/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

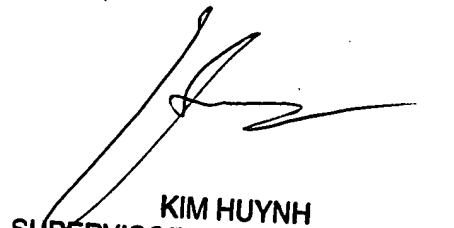
Response to Rule 312 Communication	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/004,131	MATSUNAMI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Eron J. Sorrell	2182	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

1. The amendment filed on 09 October 2006 under 37 CFR 1.312 has been considered, and has been:

- a) entered.
- b) entered as directed to matters of form not affecting the scope of the invention.
- c) disapproved because the amendment was filed after the payment of the issue fee.
Any amendment filed after the date the issue fee is paid must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.313(c)(1) and the required fee to withdraw the application from issue.
- d) disapproved. See explanation below.
- e) entered in part. See explanation below.

The applicant's proposed amendment of deleting the word "directly" from line 11 and adding the phrase "absent the presence of any disk drive controller," to line 12, substantially change the scope of the claims and requires further search and consideration.



KIM HUYNH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

10/16/06